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# Strood Rural District Council.



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## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

For the Year ended December, 1939.

BY

M. F. McDONNELL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

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CHATHAM :  
PARRETT & NEVES, LTD.,  
30, HIGH STREET.



Strood Rural District Council.

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30, HIGH STREET.

# Strood Rural District Council.

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## CHAIRMAN :

MR. JAMES WILLIAM PYE, J.P. (*Cuxton*)

## VICE-CHAIRMAN :

MR. JAMES CRAWFORD HOLM (*Allhallows*)

MR. REGINALD GEORGE WHITAKER (*Cliffe*)  
 MR. LAURENCE KNELL PYE (*Cobham*)  
 MAJOR HENRY EDMEADES, J.P. (*Cobham*)  
 MRS. FANNY MUGERIDGE (*Cooling*)  
 MR. HERBERT GEORGE ANTRUM (*Cuxton*)  
 MR. JOHN THOMAS HALES (*Frindsbury Extra*)  
 MR. IVO THOMAS LINGHAM (*Halling*)  
 MR. REGINALD BASIL SWAIN (*Higham*)  
 MR. ERNEST HAROLD HARRISON (*High Halstow*)  
 MR. RICHARD ARTHUR KNIGHT (*Hoo*)  
 THE REV. LEONARD JOHN WALTERS (*Hoo*)  
 MR. WALTER CHARLES WITHECOMB BRICE (*Hoo*)  
 MR. GEORGE WILLIAM CHEW (*Isle of Grain*)  
 MR. WILLIAM COBBETT BARKER, J.P. (*Luddesdown*)  
 MR. FREDERICK JAMES BAKER (*Meopham*)  
 MR. HERBERT JAMES INGLETON (*St. Mary, Hoo*)  
 MR. LEONARD CHARLES BOUGHEY TRIMNELL (*Shorne*)  
 MR. JOHN WILLIAM COOPER (*Stoke*)

## CLERK :

MR. J. E. POVEY (Resigned March, 1939)  
 MR. A. E. STROUD (Appointed April, 1939)

## DEPUTY CLERK :

MR. H. O. WOOD.

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

M. F. McDONNELL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.  
 Tel.: Strood 7622.

## SANITARY INSPECTOR :

A. E. R. SOUTH, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat and Foods.

## PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEYOR :

W. J. STIMPSON, L.R.I.B.A., A.M.I.St.E.

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## THE HEALTH AND HOSPITAL COMMITTEE :

THE CHAIRMAN	THE REV. L. J. WALTERS	MR. CHEW
VICE-CHAIRMAN	MR. BAKER	MR. WHITAKER
MRS. MUGERIDGE	MR. HARRISON	MR. COOPER
MR. TRIMNELL	MR. BARKER	MR. HALES

## MATRON :

MISS N. JOHNSON (Tel.: Gravesend 68)

## AMBULANCE DRIVER :

F. SOLLY (Tel.: Strood 7583)

The Rural District of Strood, Kent.

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Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1939.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Strood Rural District Council.

MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Eighteenth Annual Report of the Sanitary Circumstances of the District for the year ended December, 1939.

The contents and arrangements are based on the Memorandum issued by the Ministry of Health.

The Report of the Sanitary Inspector, under Article 27, Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, is embodied in this Report.

The Council will note that 50 new houses were erected during 1939, making a total of 2,468 during the past fourteen years.

I would take this opportunity of thanking the Council for continued interest and support.

Your obedient Servant,

M. F. McDONNELL,

*Medical Officer of Health,  
and Medical Superintendent, Isolation Hospital*

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices, Frindsbury, Rochester.

*June, 1940.*



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# ANNUAL REPORT.

## Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (acres)—48,811 (31st December, 1938).

Population (Census 1931)—17,533.

(Estimated 1939)—18,230.

Number of Inhabited houses (31st March, 1940)	...	5,256
„ „ New houses erected year ended 31st March, 1940	... ..	50
Number of families or separate occupiers (1931)	...	4,069
Rateable value, 31st March, 1940	... ..	£106,604
Sum represented by a penny rate (1940)	... ..	£433

Area (as constituted at 30th June, 1935).	Number of Houses 31st March, 1940.	Acreage (Land and Inland Water).	Census, 1921.	Population, Estimated, 1931.	1939.
<b>Strood R.D.</b> ... ..	<b>5,217</b>	<b>48,811</b>	<b>18,512</b>	<b>17,533</b>	<b>18,230</b>
<i>Civil Parishes :</i>					
1 All Hallows ...	86	2,385	314	329	286
2 Cliffe ... ..	612	5,669	2,581	2,161	2,146
3 Cobham ... ..	283	3,584	983	933	970
4 Cooling ... ..	40	2,077	190	182	149
5 Cuxton ... ..	257	2,240	652	628	826
6 Frindsbury Extra	742	2,729	2,740	2,665	2,553
7 Halling ... ..	591	1,851	2,365	2,173	2,144
8 Higham ... ..	462	3,075	1,665	1,595	1,640
9 High Halstow ...	112	2,946	353	418	366
10 Hoo ... ..	604	4,359	2,079	2,120	2,166
11 Isle of Grain ...	108	3,124	897	550	502
12 Luddesdown ...	71	1,995	212	212	166
13 Meopham ... ..	643	4,713	1,464	1,491	2,327
14 St. Mary Hoo ...	76	2,205	298	290	270
15 Shorne ... ..	356	3,228	1,033	1,146	1,110
16 Stoke ... ..	174	2,631	686	640	609

## PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

The District is situated wholly in the County of Kent, and occupies an area of 48,811 acres.

It extends from the Thames to the Medway, and on its western side contiguous with the Borough of Gravesend, the Urban District of Northfleet and the Rural District of Dartford; on the south the Rural District of Malling and the City of Rochester.

It consists of 16 Parishes.

The surface of the District is undulating or hilly. Except in the neighbourhood of the Thames, where there is a considerable area of marsh land, it is covered with gravel, sand, Thanet sand, brick earth, alluvial gravel and London clay.

The sub-soil is chalk. This formation underlies practically the whole of the District.

Most of the Parishes are essentially rural in character, consisting of scattered farm houses, farm cottages, small villages and hamlets, but in the Parishes of Frindsbury Extra, Halling and Hoo, the dwellings are urban in character, closely aggregated in streets and rows. There is in all cases ample light and air space.

### Social Conditions.

In the semi-urban districts the occupation of the inhabitant varies. In Halling it is chiefly cement workers. In Frindsbury, Wainscott and Upnor, the Admiralty Works gives employment to many. The bulk of the population obtain their livelihood from agricultural work. Many are employed by the Medway Oil and Storage Co., and Messrs. Berry, Wiggins & Co., in the decanting of petrol and in the manufacture of road dressing, Diesel oil, etc.

### Vital Statistics of the District.

**BIRTH RATE.** During the year there were 271 births, equivalent to an annual birth rate of 15.5 per 1,000 of the estimated population. This is an increase of 0.7 per 1,000 on last year.

**INFANT MORTALITY.** 5 (no illegitimate) deaths occurred among children under one year of age, which is equivalent to 18 per 1,000 births, as against 50 for the whole country.

**DEATH RATE.** The general death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 9.1, which can be considered very satisfactory.

\*(As deaths of persons serving with H.M.'s Forces are now allocated to their area of residence in the same manner as civilian deaths this estimate of resident population should be used for the calculation of both birth and death rates.)

		M.	F.	
Births	Legitimate	133	131	{ Birth Rate (R.G.)—15.5
	Illegitimate	4	3	
Deaths	... ..	91	69	Death Rate (R.G.)— 9.1
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth:—				
From Sepsis—Nil.			Other causes—Nil.	

Death of Infants under one year:—

Legitimate—5. Illegitimate—Nil. Total—5.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)—Nil.

„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)—Nil.

„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)—2.

		M.	F.
Stillbirths	Total	4	3
	Legitimate	4	3
	Illegitimate	—	—



**Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and  
Case notes for certain Infectious diseases in the year 1939.**

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns in- cluding London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administra- tive County
Rates per 1,000 Population				
Births:—				
Live	15.0	14.8	15.6	12.3
Still	0.59	0.59	0.57	0.44
Deaths:—				
All Causes	12.1	12.0	11.2	11.9
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers }	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Scarlet fever	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.02
Influenza	0.21	0.19	0.20	0.18
Notifications:—				
Smallpox	0.00	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	1.89	1.96	1.78	1.53
Diphtheria	1.14	1.21	1.16	0.98
Enteric fever	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03
Erysipelas	0.34	0.40	0.31	0.37
Pneumonia	1.02	1.21	0.89	0.99
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age	50	53	40	48
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.6	6.3	3.0	8.2
Maternal Mortality:—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.77	} Not Available		
Others	2.16			
Total	2.93			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e., Live and Still)				
Maternal Mortality:—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.74	} Not Available		
Others	2.08			
Total	2.82			
Notifications:—				
Puerperal fever }	14.35	17.26	12.99	3.31
Puerperal pyrexia }				14.22

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

### Nursing.

Apart from the Health Visitors, who are under the direct control of County Council, many of the Parishes engage the services of a "District Nurse." Her salary is provided by voluntary contributions—in most cases she is a trained midwife.

### Midwives.

This service is under the control of the County Council.

#### MIDWIVES EMPLOYED BY COUNTY COUNCIL :

Miss E. K. Wright, 22, Powlett Road,  
Frindsbury, Rochester.  
Mrs. I. G. Sheath, St. Clements, Church  
Hill, Cuxton.

#### PARISHES SERVED :

Frindsbury Extra.  
Cuxton and Halling.

#### MIDWIVES EMPLOYED BY DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION :

E. Backhouse, Nurses Cottage, 6, High  
Street, Cobham.  
M. M. Broad, 6, Alexandra Cottages, High  
Street, Hoo.  
J. M. Collie, Clements Reach, Meopham.  
F. A. Leaman, Stuartville, School Hill,  
Stoke (Lower).  
S. McGarvey, Heamoor, Villa Road, Mid  
Higham, Nr. Rochester.  
A. L. Taylor, Irvine Terrace, Cliffe-at-  
Hoo.

#### PARISHES SERVED :

Cobham (part), Luddes-  
down, Shorne.  
Hoo.  
Cobham (Nursted por-  
tion) and Meopham.  
All Hallows, Grain, High  
Halstow, Hoo St. Mary,  
Stoke.  
Higham.  
Cliffe at Hoo, Cooling.

### Maternity and Child Welfare Health Visiting.

Health Visitors appointed by the County Council work in co-operation with us, and the arrangements made by the County Medical Officer for the general administration works quite satisfactorily. Health visiting in the parishes of Cobham, Cuxton, Halling, Luddesdown and Meopham is undertaken by Miss K. Hart, of 9, Heath Close Road, Dartford. For the remaining parishes the Health Visitor is Miss M. Maxted, of Fermaine, Cliffe Road, Strood.

## **Maternity and Nursing Homes.**

There are no Maternity and Nursing Homes in the area under the control of the Council.

## **Maternal Mortality.**

The County Medical Officer of Health co-operates with me in undertaking any necessary investigations in connection with maternal deaths. There were none during the year.

## **Public Health Staff.**

Medical Officer of Health, one whole time (M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.).

The other duties of the M.O.H. are as follow:—(1) Medical Superintendent Strood Isolation Hospital. (2) District Medical Officer for Northfleet District. (3) Public Vaccinator for Northfleet. (4) Ophthalmic Surgeon and Anæsthetist, Manor Road, School Clinic. (5) Medical Officer of Health, Northfleet U.D.C.

## **Sanitary Inspector.**

Sanitary Inspectors. One who holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and the certificate for meat and other foods.

The Sanitary Inspector also carries out the duties of:—

Inspection Officer under the Housing Acts.

Inspector of Cowsheds and Dairies.

Local Inspector under the Factory and Workshops Acts.

Inspector under the Petroleum Acts.

## **Clinics.**

Cliffe, 2 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Cobham, 2nd Wednesday, 2 p.m.

Cuxton, alternate Thursdays, 2 p.m.

Grain, 3rd Friday, at 2 p.m.

Halling, alternate Thursdays, at 2 p.m.

Hoo, each Wednesday, at 2 p.m.

Meopham, which provides for the Parish of Meopham and part of Luddesdown, 2.30 p.m. on 1st and 3rd Thursdays.

Shorne, 4th Friday, 2 p.m.

Stoke, each Friday, at 2 p.m.

Wainscott, 2 p.m. on Thursdays.



Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in County Area (1938).

Name of Centre	Situation of Premises	Present day and time of opening	Medical Officer and frequency of attendance	Nurse in Charge (Whole time Health Visitor unless otherwise stated)	No. of openings	Total Attendances.						No. of Individual Children who attended and who at the end of year were:			
						Children		Mothers.				Under 1 year	1-5 years	Over 5 years	
						Under 1 year	1-5 years	Attendances First		Subsequent Attendances					
								Expectant Mothers	Nursing Mothers	Expectant Mothers	Nursing Mothers				
Cliffe-at-Hoo	Men's Social Club	Each Tuesday, 2 p.m.	Dr. Rogers (Fortnightly)	Miss Maxted	51	752	979	28	—	—	56	—	84	36	4
Cobham	Meadow Room	Wednesday, 2 p.m.	No M.O.	District Nurse	12	20	104	—	—	—	—	—	4	19	3
Cuxton	National School	Alternate Thursdays, 2 p.m.	Dr. Edwards (monthly)	Miss Hart	26	277	400	—	—	—	—	—	14	54	4
Grain	2, Laburnan Cottages	3rd Friday, 2 p.m.	Dr. Wall	Miss Maxted	12	65	81	—	—	—	—	—	9	8	1
Halling	Working Men's Club	Alternate Thursdays, 2 p.m.	Dr. Edwards (Monthly)	Miss Milner	25	244	391	—	—	—	—	—	25	44	10
Hoo	Five Bells Inn	Each Wednesday, 2 p.m.	Dr. Wall (Fortnightly)	Miss Maxted	51	399	648	—	—	—	—	—	17	74	3
Meopham	Village Hall	1st and 3rd Thursdays, 2 p.m.	Dr. Hasler (Monthly)	District Nurse	23	229	516	—	—	—	—	—	22	77	9
Shorne	Village Hall	4th Friday, 2 p.m.	Dr. Nicholson (monthly)	Miss Maxted	12	59	111	—	—	—	—	—	1	19	3
Stoke	British Legion Hall	Each Friday, 2 p.m.	Dr. Wall (Monthly)	Miss Maxted	12	81	139	—	—	—	—	—	3	20	—
Wainscott	Working Men's Institute	Each Thursday, 2 p.m.	Dr. Nicholson (Fortnightly)	Miss Maxted	52	740	536	—	—	—	—	—	62	103	5



## Hospitals.

GRAVESEND AND NORTH KENT HOSPITAL, GRAVESEND, serves the upper part of the District, and contains 112 beds and 9 cots.

Day and time of attendance for registration at Out-patient Department:—

Monday	10.30 a.m.	Ear, Nose and Throat.
	2. 0 p.m.	Fracture Clinic.
Tuesday	9. 0 a.m.	General Surgical.
	2.45 p.m.	Ante-Natal and Gynæcological.
Wednesday	10. 0 a.m.	Fracture Clinic.
1st & 3rd Wednesdays	1.30 p.m.	Orthopædic.
Thursday	8.30 a.m.	Dental.*
	8.30 a.m.	Ophthalmic.
Friday	8.30 a.m.	Dental.
	10.30 a.m.	Fracture Clinic.
	11.45 a.m.	Massage and Electro-Medical.
	12 noon	C.O.2 Clinic.
Saturday	10.30 a.m.	Medical Out-patients.

\*Discontinued for duration of war.

COUNTY HOSPITAL, CHATHAM. This Institution has the following number of beds:—Tuberculosis, 24; children (including 12 maternity cots), 41; maternity, 18; general, 271; mental, 61; isolation, 8; total, 423.

*Ante-natal Clinic.* Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.—12 noon. Surgery—Mr. Hamilton Bailey. Monday, 9.45 a.m. (Appointments arranged with the Medical Superintendent).

Medical—Dr. N. S. Plummer. Wednesday, 9.45 a.m. (Appointments arranged with the Medical Superintendent).

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTION, GRAVESEND. Has 79 beds, including two for maternity cases.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL, NEW ROAD, ROCHESTER. This is a Voluntary General Hospital, with 201 beds, and serves a large area with a population of over 200,000.

Monday	9. 0 a.m.	General Out-patients.
	9. 0 a.m.	Dental.
	10.0 a.m.	Orthopaedic.
	1.30 p.m.	Medical.
Tuesday	9. 0 a.m.	General Out-patients.
	10.30 a.m.	Ear, Nose and Throat.
	1.30 p.m.	Medical and Surgical.
Wednesday	9. 0 a.m.	General Out-patients.
	1.30 p.m.	Eyes.
Thursday	9. 0 a.m.	General Out-patients.
	9. 0 a.m.	Dental.
	10. 0 a.m.	Orthopædic.
	1.30 p.m.	Medical.
Friday	9. 0 a.m.	General Out-patients.
	10.30 a.m.	Cancer Clinic.
	1.30 p.m.	Surgical and Medical.
	2.30 p.m.	Children.

COUNTY HOSPITAL, DARTFORD. No. of beds, 709; maternity, 25; tuberculosis, 32.

*Clinics.*

Dental Clinic	Wednesday, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon. Mr. Pollard.
V.D. Clinic	Women's treatment, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. Friday, 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Men's treatment, Daily, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Dr. Ockwell and male and female nurse. Doctor's day, Monday, 2 p.m. to 6.15 p.m., or by special appointment.
Orthopaedic Clinic	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special Clinics. Mr. Batten, 1st Tuesday in the month at 2.30 p.m. 3rd Tuesday in the month at 2 p.m. 4th Tuesday in the month at 2 p.m. Dr. Rattray every Wednesday, 2—4 p.m.
National Health	Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Regional Medical Officer and Probationer Nurse.
Urological Clinic	Wednesdays by appointment at 2.30 p.m. Mr. Kenneth Walker. Held in Doctor's room, but there are generally In-Patients who need operative treatment.
Neurological Clinic	Second and fourth Tuesdays in each month, 2.30 p.m. Dr. Robbins.
Ante-Natal Clinic	Every Saturday and Monday, 2-5 p.m. Maternity Sister and Pupil.
Ophthalmic Clinic	1st and 3rd Mondays, 2-4 p.m. Mr. O. Walker.
X-Ray Clinic ...	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Dr. Bracken. Mondays and Thursdays, 2-4 p.m.

*Specialists.*

Mr. Jobson	...	Ears, Nose and Throat.
Dr. Donaldson	...	Gynaecologist.
Mr. Batten	...	Orthopaedic.
Mr. Kenneth Walker	...	Urological.
Mr. Oliver Walker	...	Ophthalmic.
Dr. Ockwell	...	V.D.
Dr. Martin	...	T.B.
Dr. Rattray	...	Electrical Therapy.
Dr. Robbins	...	Neurological.
Mr. Pollard	...	Dentist.
Dr. Bracken	...	Radiologist.

School Nurse. Daily 9-10 a.m.

School for Minor Ailments Clinic. Saturday, 9 a.m.  
Dr. Denholm-Young.

**TUBERCULOSIS.** The treatment of Tuberculosis is undertaken by the County Council, and suitable cases from this district are admitted to their sanatoria as occasion demands. There is no sanatorium for Tuberculosis situated in the district.

Hospital and other forms of gratuitous Medical Relief are utilised to the utmost extent in the district.

### **Ambulance Facilities.**

Ambulance facilities are adequate for the needs of the district. Cases of infectious disease are removed by two motor ambulances maintained by the Council at the Isolation Hospital. Non-infectious and accident cases are removed by an ambulance maintained by the Council in connection with A.R.P. and by the St. John Ambulance Brigade, Gravesend.

To my knowledge, no undue delay has occurred during the year in the removal of persons by ambulance.

To obtain an ambulance applications should be made to the A.R.P. Headquarters, Strood (Tel. No. Strood 7566), Parishes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, or to Secretary, St. John Ambulance Brigade, 17, Robina Avenue, Northfleet (Tel. No. Gravesend 854), Parishes 2, 3, 8, 13, 15. See page 5 for list of Parishes corresponding to these numbers.

NOTE. In addition to those mentioned, an ambulance is available for urgent accident cases at the County Hospital, Chatham, and application for its services should be made to the Hospital (Telephone No. : Chatham 3686).

### **Relieving Officers.**

A. E. Terry, 3, Haig Villas, Hoo (Telephone No. : Hoo 33), Parishes 1—16. For list of Parishes corresponding to these numbers, see page 5.

### **Registrars of Births and Deaths.**

D. A. Gough, 36, Springhead Road, Northfleet, Parishes 3, 12, 13, 15; C. A. Crossland, 13, Gun Lane, Strood, Parishes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16. Days and times of attendances of Registrars should be obtained by direct enquiry. In a few cases the districts of Registrars are not co-terminous with the strict boundaries of the civil parish: but enquiry of the Registrar would settle any matter of doubt.

### **Vaccination Officers.**

A. E. Terry, 3, Haig Villas, Hoo, Parishes 1, 4, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16; D. A. Gough, 36, Springhead Road, Northfleet, Parishes 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 15. In a few cases the districts of Vaccination Officers are not co-terminous with the strict boundaries of the civil parish: but inquiry of the Vaccination Officer would settle any matter of doubt.



### **Nursing Associations.**

Hon. Secretaries: Mrs. Rogers, Red House, Cliffe-at-Hoo, Parishes 2—14; Miss Stevens, The Parsonage, Cobham, Parishes 3—12; Mrs. Arnold, Meopham Court, Nr. Gravesend, Parish 13.

### **Venereal Diseases Clinics.**

The County Council has established clinics either at Hospitals or other premises for the treatment of these diseases. Clinics serving this district are situated in Gravesend and Rochester; and full information respecting attendance thereat may be obtained confidentially from the County Medical Officer, or from the Medical Officer of Health, or from any Medical Practitioner, either verbally or by letter. A telephone inquiry of the County Medical Officer will elicit information relating to any V.D. Clinic in Kent. (See page 21.)

### **Ante-Natal Clinics.**

Cliffe—Men's Social Club: 2nd Fridays, 2 p.m.; Gravesend—Gravesend and North Kent Hospital: Tuesdays, 2.30 p.m.

### **School Clinics.**

Northfleet—West Kent House; Snodland—New Welfare Centre. General Clinic in each case, Saturdays at 9.30. Cases of defective teeth, defective vision, and diseases or defects of the nose and throat, attend by appointment.

### **Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic.**

Applications for appointment should be made to the Medical Officer of Health.

### **Mental Welfare.**

Information on matters of mental welfare can be obtained from the Kent Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare, 70, King Street, Maidstone. Telephone No.: Maidstone 3889.

### **Blind Persons.**

Information on matters affecting the blind, or those threatened with blindness, can be obtained from the Secretary of the Kent County Association for the Blind, 15, Ashford Road, Maidstone. Telephone No.: Maidstone 3717.

### **Treatment of Squint.**

The services of the School Oculist and the facilities of school ophthalmic clinics are available for cases of squint in children under school age. Spectacles are provided free of cost, and travelling expenses are paid, in necessitous cases. The health visitor has been instructed to report cases of squint which come to her notice among the infants on her visiting list.



## Isolation Hospital.

The Strood Isolation Hospital occupies an area of six acres and consists of four blocks—three brick and one corrugated iron. These blocks are 40 feet from each other and from the boundary fence. There are six large and five small wards, and they contain 36 beds (allowing 144 sq. feet of floor per bed).

The administrative accommodation consists of a Matron, a Staff Nurse, and three Nurses. Domestic Staff is four women and one man.

The other offices are a hand laundry, which is sufficient for the wants of the Hospital; a disinfection station contains a Thresh Disinfector; and garage for Motor Ambulances.

Sewage Disposal.—Administration Block and Wards to Cesspool.

Heating is provided for by fires in each Ward. Lighting by electricity, and water is supplied by the Higham and Hundred of Hoo Water Co.

During 1938 the Diphtheria Block was redecorated throughout. New W.C's. and slop sinks were installed.

By 1939 the Hospital will have been completely brought up-to-date.

The accommodation for Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric is sufficient for the wants of the District

### Details of Wards.

The available accommodation is as follows:—

Ward Blocks.	No. of wards in each block.	Dimensions.		Floor Space. Approx.
		Length	Breadth	
A Diphtheria.	Male	26ft. 4ins.	23ft. 6ins.	624 square feet.
	Female	26ft. 4ins.	23ft. 6ins.	624 „
	4 small	12ft. 6ins.	11ft. 6ins.	576 „
B Scarlet Fever	Male	26ft. 4ins.	23ft. 6ins.	624 square feet.
	Female	26ft. 4ins.	23ft. 6ins.	624 „
	4 small	12ft. 6ins.	11ft. 6ins.	576 „
C Smallpox or Enteric	Male	29ft. 10ins.	19ft. 6ins.	580 square feet.
	Female	29ft. 10ins.	19ft. 6ins.	580 „
	3 small	13ft.	9ft. 3ins.	363 „

This gives us a total floor space of 5,171 square feet or accommodation for 36 patients allowing each bed 144 square feet of floor space.

Sanitary Districts from which patients are admitted :—

Name of District.	Population (1940).
Strood Rural     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	18,230
Northfleet   Urban     .     ...     ..     ...	17,800
(Occasionally other districts temporarily.)	36,030

On the 1st January, 1939, there were 11 patients in the Hospital, and 80 patients were admitted during the year, making a total of 91 patients treated in the Hospital during the period.

The following table gives a summary of the patients treated in the Hospital during 1939.

Strood Isolation Hospital.

WHITE HILL ROAD, GRAVESEND.

Disease.	Remaining in the Hospital, 1/1/1939	Admitted during 1939.	Total number treated during 1939.	Number discharged in 1939.	Number dying in 1939.	Remaining in the Hospital, 31/12/1939.
Erysipelas     ...	1	1	2	2	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever...	4	51	55	53	Nil	2
Diphtheria     ...	6	16	22	22	Nil	Nil
Typhoid Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Smallpox     ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Impetigo     ...	Nil	2	2	2	Nil	Nil
Pediculosis     ...	Nil	10	10	10	Nil	Nil
	11	80	91	89	Nil	2

The average stay of each patient in the Hospital was 39 days.

The next Table shows the number of cases of each disease treated in the Hospital for the past eight years :—

	1932.		1933.		1934.		1935.		1936.		1937.		1938.		1939.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever...	46	...	85	...	139	...	61	...	38	...	31	...	62	1	55	...
Diphtheria	22	2	37	4	42	...	18	1	6	...	11	1	54	2	22	...
Typhoid Fever...	...	...	1	...	6	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	2	...	14	...
	68	2	123	4	187	...	79	1	46	...	48	1	121	3	91	...

### Ambulance Facilities.

Two Motor Ambulances are provided by the Council for the removal of infectious cases. Ambulance facilities are also provided by the St. John Ambulance for non-infectious and accident cases.

During 1939 80 patients were removed at a cost of £42 14s. 6d., or 10s. 8d. per case.

\*This figure includes cost of petrol, oil, all repairs and insurance.

### Strood Rural District Council—Isolation Hospital.

I have abstracted the following items of Expenditure and Receipts for the year ending 31st March, 1940, from the Accountant's Abstract of Accounts.

*Receipts and Expenditure for the year ending 31st March,*

		1939.			1940.		
RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Other Local Authorities, &c.	...	240	19	4	827	2	9

EXPENDITURE.							
Provisions	...	523	12	1½	495	8	7
Clothing	...	2	12	10	—	—	—
Furniture and Property	...	98	16	9	99	8	7½
Necessaries	...	228	19	0½	214	15	0½
Building and Repairs	...	368	17	1	86	1	6
Disinfectants	...	5	1	0	6	19	0
Garden	...	6	14	9	5	18	4
Drugs	...	73	12	11	42	18	2½



	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Salaries and Wages ... ..	791	0	4½	850	0	8
Printing, Stationery, &c. ...	29	6	10	15	2	8
Rates, Telephone Charges and Insurance ... ..	90	11	6	88	19	7
Unemployment Insurance ...	17	11	5	17	15	4
Sundries ... ..	3	13	8¾	2	11	3
Health Insurance ... ..	36	13	0	34	4	0
Motor Ambulance Account ...	331	2	0*	42	14	6
Uniform ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Expenditure ...	2608	5	4¼	2002	17	3½
Less Receipts ...	240	19	4	827	2	9
Net Expenditure ...	<u>£2367</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>0¼</u>	<u>1175</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>6½</u>

\*This sum includes £300 for the provision of a new ambulance.

I am pleased to record my sincere appreciation of the loyal and devoted services of the Matron, Miss Johnson, and Staff.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following is a list of the diseases which have to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health :—

(1) Small-pox. (2) Scarlet Fever. (3) Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup. (4) Enteric Fever (Typhoid and Paratyphoid). (5) Pneumonia. (6) Cholera. (7) Plague. (8) Cerebro-spinal Fever. (9) Acute Poliomyelitis. (10) Acute Polioencephalitis. (11) Encephalitis Lethargica. (12) Typhus Fever. (13) Dysentery. (14) Ophthalmia Neonatorum. (15) Puerperal Pyrexia. (16) Erysipelas. (17) Tuberculosis, primary notifications only. Respiratory, other forms. (18) Malaria (believed to be contracted in this country), (believed to be contracted abroad), induced in institutions, (19) Measles. (20) Whooping Cough.



The following table gives details of each Parish.

Parishes.	Number of Houses. 31st March, 1940.	Population (1931 Census).	Births * (1939).	Deaths * (1939).	Cases of Infectious Fever.
Allhallows ... ..	86	286	4	1	—
Cliffe ... ..	612	2146	32	11	16
Cobham ... ..	283	970	11	13	5
Cooling ... ..	40	149	3	2	1
Cuxton ... ..	257	826	11	1	—
Frindsbury extra ...	742	2553	30	9	16
Halling ... ..	591	2144	28	11	13
Higham ... ..	462	1640	19	11	4
High Halstow ... ..	112	366	5	1	—
Hoo ... ..	604	2166	39	15	17
Luddesdown ... ..	71	166	2	2	—
Meopham ... ..	643	2327	16	14	30
Isle of Grain ... ..	108	502	5	4	—
St. Mary, Hoo ... ..	76	270	3	1	—
Shorne ... ..	356	1110	14	9	2
Stoke ... ..	174	609	6	3	—
Total	5217	18230	228	108	104

Stillbirths :

\* Actually registered in the area.

Table showing the numbers of cases and deaths from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever since 1933 :—

	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Enteric Fever	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1933	51	Nil	19	4	Nil	Nil
1934	110	Nil	15	Nil	5	Nil
1935	40	Nil	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
1936	17	Nil	6	Nil	2	Nil
1937	13	Nil	9	1	Nil	Nil
1938	54	1	50	2	1	Nil
1939	46	Nil	15	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	331	1	120	7	8	Nil.

### Scarlet Fever.

Number of cases notified ... ..	46
Number of deaths ... ..	Nil.
Case fatality per cent. ... ..	Nil.
Number of cases removed to Hospital ...	43
Percentage of cases removed ... ..	93.4%

### Diphtheria.

Number of cases notified ... ..	15
Number of deaths ... ..	Nil.
Case fatality per cent. ... ..	Nil.
Number of cases removed to Hospital ...	15
Percentage of cases removed ... ..	100%

**DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.** A scheme for diphtheria immunisation was adopted during the year.

As to the efficiency of immunisation there can be no doubt. Active immunisation against diphtheria has been practised in this country and in America since the War and has definitely passed the experimental stage. Parents can be assured that their children, if successfully immunised and post Schick tested, will not contract the disease under normal circumstances even though exposed to it.

Active immunisation is the only reliable safeguard against the severe type of diphtheria which is prevalent in this country. Whereas in the ordinary form of diphtheria early administration of anti-toxin to the patient can be relied upon to neutralise the poison, in the graver type anti-toxin fails to give the same favourable results. The wise parent, therefore, will not hesitate to do his duty to his child and will follow the example of the doctors themselves, who take good care to see that their own children are immunised. The foolish parent, however, will wait until his child contracts the disease and will then experience the remorse of knowing that but for his parental neglect the serious illness of his child, followed, perhaps, by complications and even death, could easily have been prevented—not to speak of the needless expense which his indifference has caused his fellow-ratepayers in maintaining his child in hospital (approximately £25).

A comprehensive scheme for the diphtheria immunisation of children in the town was approved by the Health Committee and launched in 1938. The co-operation of Medical Practitioners in the area was obtained, and immunising and testing material forwarded to them free on request. Leaflets were widely distributed, requesting parents to visit their own doctor, or if unable to afford a doctor, to apply to the Health Department.

### **Enteric Fever.**

Number of cases notified	...	...	...	Nil.
Number of deaths	...	...	...	Nil.
Case fatality per cent.	...	...	...	Nil.
Number of cases removed to Hospital	...	...	...	Nil.
Percentage of cases removed	...	...	...	Nil.

### **Small Pox.**

No cases were notified during the year.

A conference of various local authorities was convened by the Kent County Council in 1934 with a view of obtaining views as to the possibility of having central hospitals for the care of cases of Small Pox in the County. It was suggested that a fixed annual charge on the rateable value of each district should be made to maintain the hospitals. Most of the authorities were in favour of the scheme.

## Tuberculosis Dispensary Service.

The services of the tuberculosis officers are available for the purpose of consultation in all cases receiving domiciliary treatment, and, at the request of the medical attendant, a certain number of patients are kept under the supervision of the tuberculosis officers.

There are twenty-two dispensaries in the County. Particulars as to the tuberculosis officer in charge, the address of the dispensary and the hours of attendance are given below. Information is also given as to the additional area allocated to each tuberculosis officer for visitation purposes :—

### District No. 1.—Population, approx., 275,680.

(Tuberculosis Officer in Charge, S. ROY C. PRICE, B.Sc., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.)

(Assistant Tuberculosis Officer, FRANK O. POTTER, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.)

	<i>Address.</i>	<i>Day and Time of Opening.</i>	<i>Additional Area for Domiciliary Visitation.</i>
DARTFORD (Tel. No. 3378)	41, Overy Street	Monday, 10 a.m.—12 noon Thursday, 5.30-6.30 p.m.	Dartford R., Crayford, Swanscombe. Bexley,
Erith	65, Bexley Road	Monday, 5.0-6.0 p.m. Thursday, 10.30 a.m.—12.30 p.m.	Northfleet and part of Strood R.
Gravesend	22, Cobham Street	Wednesday, 1.0-3.0 p.m.	

### District No. 2.—Population, approx., 170,920.

(Tuberculosis Officer in Charge, CHARLES ROPER, B.A.(Camb.), M.D., B.C., D.P.H.)

ROCHESTER (Tel. No. Chatham 2182)	13, New Road	Friday, 9.30-10.30 a.m. Tuesday, 2.0-3.0 p.m. and 5.0-6.0 p.m.	Strood R. Chatham, N.E. fringe of Malling R., N.W. fringe of Hollingbourn R., W. quarter of Swale R.
Gillingham	228, Nelson Road	Tuesday, 9.30-10.30 a.m. Friday, 2.0-3.0 p.m.	

## Venereal Diseases.

Amendments have been made in the times of holding the following clinics and they are now as follows :—

### GRAVESEND—22, COBHAM STREET.

#### DAYS AND TIMES OF CONSULTATION.

	<i>Men</i>				<i>Women</i>			
Tuesday	11	a.m.	—	1 p.m.	1 p.m.	—	2.15 p.m.	
Thursday	5	p.m.	—	7 p.m.	3 p.m.	—	4.30 p.m.	

#### DAYS AND HOURS FOR IRRIGATION.

	<i>Men</i>				<i>Women</i>			
Monday	6	p.m.	—	7 p.m.	9 a.m.	—	12 noon	
Tuesday	11	a.m.	—	1 p.m.	and 1 p.m.	—	5 p.m.	
Wednesday	and 6	p.m.	—	7 p.m.	1 p.m.	—	2.15 p.m.	
	6	p.m.	—	7 p.m.	9 a.m.	—	11.30 a.m.	



Thursday	5	p.m.	—	7	p.m.	3 p.m.	—	4.30 p.m.
Friday	6	p.m.	—	7	p.m.	9 a.m.	—	12 noon
						and 1 p.m.	—	5 p.m.
Saturday	1	p.m.	—	2	p.m.	9 a.m.	—	11.30 a.m.

### ROCHESTER—36, NEW ROAD.

#### DAYS AND TIMES OF CONSULTATION.

	<i>Men</i>				<i>Women</i>			
Tuesday	3	p.m.	—	7	p.m.	3 p.m.	—	6.30 p.m.
Thursday	11	a.m.	—	2	p.m.	11 a.m.	—	2 p.m.

#### DAYS AND HOURS FOR IRRIGATION.

	<i>Men</i>				<i>Women</i>			
Monday	10	a.m.	—	1	p.m.	9 a.m.	—	12 noon
	2	p.m.	—	3	p.m.	1 p.m.	—	4 p.m.
and	5.30	p.m.	—	8	p.m.			
Tuesday	10	a.m.	—	10.30	a.m.	1 p.m.	—	6.30 p.m.
	3	p.m.	—	8	p.m.			
Wednesday	10	a.m.	—	1	p.m.	9 a.m.	—	12 noon
	2	p.m.	—	3	p.m.	1 p.m.	—	4 p.m.
and	5.30	p.m.	—	8	p.m.			
Thursday	11	a.m.	—	2	p.m.	2 p.m.	—	4 p.m.
	5.30	p.m.	—	8	p.m.			
Friday	10	a.m.	—	1	p.m.	9 a.m.	—	12 noon
	2	p.m.	—	3	p.m.	1 p.m.	—	4 p.m.
and	7.30	p.m.	—	8.30	p.m.			
Saturday	10	a.m.	—	1	p.m.	9 a.m.	—	12 noon

### Treatment of Crippled Children.

The County scheme for the treatment of crippled children includes the provision of eighty beds at the Alexandra Hospital at Swanley, not less than forty-eight being for for tuberculous cripples and not more than thirty-two for patients suffering from crippling defects due to other causes. For those children who are of school age education is provided. The whole of these beds are now occupied by Kent patients.

In addition, the following hospitals have provided a limited number of beds for patients who do not require prolonged institutional treatment, viz:—

- (a) West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone.
- (b) County Hospital, Dartford.

These hospitals have each established a properly equipped



orthopaedic out-patient department, and a list of out-patient clinics is set out below:—

Address.	Day and time of Opening.	Orthopaedic Surgeon Attends.	Name of Surgeon.
County Hospital, Dartford.	First Tuesday in each month at 2.30 p.m., and third and fourth Tuesday in each month at 2.0 p.m.	At each opening.	H. E. Batten, Esq., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
*Tuberculosis Dispensary, 41, Overy Street, Dartford.	First Tuesday in each month at 1.30 p.m.	Ditto.	Ditto.
West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone.	Each Friday. New patients should arrive at the Union Street entrance of the hospital before 10 a.m., if possible. No patient is admitted after 11.15 a.m.	Ditto.	A. H. Todd, Esq., M.S., M.B., B.Sc., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

\*For tuberculous cripples only.

Necessary surgical appliances are provided for patients on the recommendation of the orthopaedic surgeons, and X-ray films are taken at various approved institutions. Cases arising for electrical treatment, massage, exercise, etc., receive daily treatment, where necessary, at certain of the clinics, at St. Mary's Convalescent Home, Birchington, or at the homes of the children.

The parents of patients are asked to contribute towards the cost of institutional treatment and surgical appliances, in accordance with their means.

Travelling expenses of patients are met in necessitous cases.

The above arrangements apply to:—

- (i) All crippled children under five years of age living in the area in which the County Council is responsible for maternity and child welfare.

### Cancer.

The number of deaths caused by Cancer during the year under review was 28. Most of the cases occurred amongst elderly folk and no undue prevalence in any particular organ was noted. It was not deemed necessary to advise the Council to take any action to improve the facilities for health instruction, diagnosis or treatment, such as those outlined in Circular 1136 of the 31st July, 1930.

### British Empire Cancer Campaign.

The British Empire Cancer Campaign has formed a Committee to stimulate the education of the public on matters concerning cancer—particularly the early symptoms of the accessible cancers such as the breast, uterus, tongue, etc.

It is considered that the best way of doing this is to form panels of Local Practitioners who will give lectures in their respective districts, for which they will receive a small honorarium. The objects of such lectures will be :—

1. To diminish the present very widespread fear of the disease and
2. To convince people of the importance of early diagnosis and to persuade them to seek medical advice at an early stage of the disease.

### **Pathological and Bacteriological Specimens.**

Pathological and Bacteriological specimens are examined free of charge at the County Laboratory at Maidstone. Full use has been made of these facilities, which are most satisfactory.

Diphtheria anti-toxin is supplied free to Medical Practitioners in the District.

#### **DICK AND SCKICK TEST.**

No use has been made of either of these Tests during the year

### **Verminous Persons.**

Facilities for the cleansing and disinfection of persons are available at the Public Assistance Institutions.

### **Disinfection.**

In every case of infectious disease, disinfection of the premises is carried out. An arrangement has been made with the Gravesend Authority for the use of their disinfectors.

### **Shellfish—River Medway.**

#### **DRAFT RULES AND ORDERS, 1935.**

##### **PUBLIC HEALTH, ENGLAND.**

#### **PREVENTION OF EPIDEMIC, ENDEMIC AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

A person shall not sell distribute or offer for sale for human consumption any oysters mussels or other molluscan shell-fish taken from the prescribed area unless they have been subjected to a satisfactory process of cleansing at an establishment which is for the time being approved by the Minister for the purpose.

NOTE.—The Public Health Act, 1896, provides by subsection (3) of section 1 that if any person wilfully neglects or refuses to obey or carry out or obstructs the execution of any regulations made under any of the enactments mentioned in that Act he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £100 and in the case of a continuing offence to a further penalty not exceeding £50 for every day during which the offence continues.

The power of making regulations under the Public Health Act, 1896, and the enactments mentioned in that Act is enlarged by the Public Health (Regulations as to Food) Act, 1907.



## Vaccination.

The percentage of babies vaccinated remains high—in the part of the District controlled by the Medical Officer of Health it is more than 60% of the babies born—and no babies have been vaccinated by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small-pox Preventative) Regulations, 1917, during the year.

I am indebted to Mr. Gough, the Vaccination Officer for the sub-division of Northfleet, for the following report:—

### NORTHFLEET DISTRICT.

#### VACCINATION—YEARS 1923-1938.

I beg to submit my Annual Vaccination Report for the Northfleet District.

It will be of interest to note that over a period of fifteen years, an average of 62% of babies born were vaccinated, approximately 50% of these by yourself as Public Vaccinator for the District.

There has been no increase in the case of parents who object to the vaccination of babies, and Statutory Declarations made in this respect, remain at 32% of the total births registered.

The high percentage of babies vaccinated in your district is therefore maintained.

### Northfleet District.

#### Vaccination Returns for the Years 1923-1939.

Year.	Births Registered.	Vaccinated by Public Vaccinator.	Vaccinated by Medical Practitioners.	Statutory Declarations made against Vaccination.	Insusceptible to Vaccination.	Removed from District.	Deaths before Vaccination.	Total.
1923	427	189	84	133	2	10	9	427
1924	447	228	69	124	1	9	16	447
1925	455	219	64	138	1	10	23	455
1926	418	195	73	127	—	6	17	418
1927	417	190	75	128	2	3	19	417
1928	418	191	55	150	1	6	15	418
1929	408	196	64	129	1	4	14	408
1930	353	170	49	110	2	8	14	353
1931	369	174	67	115	1	2	10	369
1932	346	161	43	114	3	5	20	346
1933	409	219	65	106	1	9	9	409
1934	396	194	48	127	—	10	17	396
1935	332	145	38	124	—	18	7	332
1936	284	96	46	124	3	4	11	284
1937	262	116	37	90	—	9	10	262
1938	250	124	25	87	—	7	8	250
1939	239	112	36	77	—	11	3	239
Totals	6230	2919	938	2002	18	131	222	6230

## Percentage Vaccinated and Exempted of Births Registered.

Year.	Total Percentage Vaccinated.	Percentage Vaccinated by Public Vaccinator.	Percentage Vaccinated by Medical Practitioners.	Percentage of Statutory Declarations.
1923	64%	45%	19%	31%
1924	67%	51%	16%	28%
1925	62%	48%	14%	30%
1926	64%	47%	17%	30%
1927	64%	46%	18%	30%
1928	59%	46%	13%	36%
1929	64%	48%	16%	31%
1930	62%	48%	14%	31%
1931	65%	47%	18%	31%
1932	59%	47%	12%	33%
1933	70%	54%	16%	26%
1934	62%	50%	12%	32%
1935	55%	44%	11%	37%
1936	50%	34%	16%	43%
1937	58%	44%	14%	34%
1938	60%	50%	10%	34%
1939	62%	47%	15%	32%
Average	62%	47%	15%	32%

D. A. GOUGH,

*Vaccination Officer, Northfleet, Kent.*



## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the  
year 1939.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths *
Small-pox ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	46	43	—
Diphtheria ... ..	15	15	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	—	—
„ Diseases ... ..	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	4	—	4
Erysipelas ... ..	3	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	—	—
Measles ... ..	1	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	16	—	—
Totals ... ..	88	58	4

\* R.G. Returns.

	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 10 years.	10 and under 15 years.	15 and under 20 years.	20 and under 25 years.	25 and under 35 years.	35 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and over.	Totals.
Diphtheria... ..	1	3	3	6	1	..	1	..	..	..	15
Scarlet Fever ... ..	3	10	17	4	7	..	1	3	1	..	46
Erysipelas ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	3
Pneumonia ... ..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4
Peurperal Pyrexia ... ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ... ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pulmonary } M....	..	1	..	..	1	..	2	3	1	..	8
Tuberculosis } F....	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	3
Non-Pulm'y } M ...	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Tuberculosis } F....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Measles ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Whooping Cough... ..	2	6	6	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	16
Totals. ... ..	6	24	30	11	11	2	6	7	6	1	104

### Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths. †			
	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
1—5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
10—15	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
15—25	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	...
25—35	2	2	...	...	1	...	...	...
35—45	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45—55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55—65	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
65 up.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	8	3	4	1	1	2	Nil.	3

† R. G. Returns.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925,  
Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

No action was taken during 1939.

Statement of Particulars appearing in the Register of Notifications of cases of Tuberculosis for the Year ended the 31st day of December, 1939.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Total.
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
(a) Number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the commencement of the Year ... ..	15	9	24	24	18	42	66
(b) Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the Year ... ..	18	10	28	26	21	47	75

### Non-Notifiable Acute Infections.

The district has been comparatively free from Influenza, and the number of deaths accredited to this disease negligible.

### Foot and Mouth Disease.

No outbreaks were reported during the year.

## Causes of Death in Strood Rural District, 1939.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>							<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
ALL CAUSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	91	69
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
3. Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4. Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5. Diphtheria	..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
6. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
7. Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
8. Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
10. Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
11. Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
12. General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
13. Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	13
14. Diabetes	...	..	...	...	...	...	2	—
15. Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	6
16. Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	15
17. Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
18. Other circulatory diseases	...	..	...	...	...	...	9	7
19. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
21. Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
22. Peptic ulcer	...	...	..	...	...	...	—	—
23. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
24. Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
25. Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
26. Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	—
27. Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
28. Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
29. Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
30. Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
31. Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
32. Senility	...	...	..	...	...	...	7	5
33. Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
34. Other violence	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
35. Other defined diseases	...	...	..	...	...	...	3	5
36. Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above).								
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Polioencephalitis	...	...	..	...	...	...	—	—

### Deaths of Infants under 1 year :

Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Legitimate	...	...	...	..	...	...	2	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—

### Stillbirths :

Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
Legitimate	...	...	..	...	...	...	4	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### Water Supply.

Practically the whole of the District is now supplied by water from mains of the Higham and Hundred of the Hoo, Gravesend and Milton, the Mid-Kent and Strood Water Companies.

The water supply is regularly tested both chemically and bacteriologically and continues to maintain its high standard of purity.

<i>Name of Parish.</i>	<i>Water Company supplying Water.</i>
Cliffe ... ..	Higham & Hundred of Hoo.
Cobham ... ..	Ditto.
Cuxton ... ..	Ditto.
Frindsbury Extra ... ..	Strood Water Co., and the Higham & Hundred of Hoo.
Halling ... ..	The Mid-Kent.
Higham ... ..	Higham & Hundred of Hoo.
Luddesdown ... ..	Higham & Hundred of Hoo.
Meopham ... ..	Ditto.
Shorne ... ..	Higham & Hundred of Hoo.

### Reservoirs.

Higham & Hundred of Hoo	One 200,000 gls. at Vigo Inn, Meopham.
	One 200,000 gls. at Pear Tree Lane.
	One 1,000,000 Ditto.
	One 50,000 gls. at High Halstow.
	One 18,000 gls. at War Dept., Grain.
The Mid-Kent (Halling) ...	One 1,000,000 gls. Chapel Lane, Halling.
	One 206,000 gls. at Dean Hill, Halling.
	One 480,000 gls. at Fox Hill, Halling.
„ „ (Nursted) ...	One 1,000,000 gls. at Exedown, Wrotham.

### Former Hoo Area.

The District, with the exception of Cooling and the Isle of Grain, is supplied from the mains of the Higham and Hundred of Hoo Water Company. The Isle of Grain: arrangements are made with the War Office for supply from the Fort by means of stand pipes.

### Inadequacy of Water Supplies.

Complaints regarding inadequacy of water supplies were again received from the Parishes of Cliffe, Cooling, Grain, Luddesdown and Meopham (part of).

I am pleased to be able to report that considerable progress was made during the year dealing with this question.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLIES.

In view of recent events it was decided to make monthly bacteriological examinations of all water supplies.

I append a detailed list of the results obtained. The information has been gathered from various sources.

The bacteriological examination shows us the actual types and numbers of the various bacteria present and since a water, which might be passed as safe for drinking purposes on chemical data, may contain evidence of sewage pollution from the number and kind of bacteria in it, such an examination is of great value.

In practice the information usually required is whether the water is of sufficient bacterial purity or whether a water known to be more or less impure is being efficiently treated to render it fit for drinking purposes. Treatment consists of either storage, filtration, chlorination or ozonization. To this must be added a type of biological treatment in which protozoa inimical to bacteria are used, but this is not yet well known in this country and treatment by the other processes, either alone or in combination, is the usual procedure.

The various technical procedures carried out in a bacteriological examination usually include (1) a count of the micro-organisms developing at a temperature of 22 deg. C. on ordinary standard gelatine or agar during three days' incubation. (2) A count of those organisms which develop on standard agar-agar at a temperature of 37 deg. C. during two days' incubation. (3) Qualitative and quantitative tests for *B. coli* in quantities of water up to 100 c.c. (4) Qualitative and quantitative tests for faecal and other streptococci. (5) Qualitative and quantitative tests for spores of *B. welchii*. (6) A record of the presence or absence of *B. coli* variants and special organisms such as *B. filamentosus*, etc.

In deep wells or borings the water should be, and generally is, of great natural purity. This is found to be so, even in the neighbourhood of big towns and in the London area. The strata from which these deep borings are supplied produces a practically sterile water and any water that may have come more directly from the surface is always so well filtered naturally that all micro-organisms are removed from it before it reaches the collecting basin deep underground. These waters are naturally pure and require no treatment except during those periods when work is being carried on in headings and adits. It is then usual to chlorinate the water as a temporary measure. Shallow wells can seldom, in their bacterial content, compare favourably with deep borings.

# Higham and Hundred of Hoo Water Company.

Date.	No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on Agar at 37° C.		B. coli (presumptive).		Remarks.
			Absent in 100 ccs.	Good Water.	
17th January	2	4			
18th February	2	0	"	"	"
21st March	0	0	"	"	"
15th April	0	0	"	"	"
13th May	0	0	"	"	"
17th June	0	4	"	"	"
17th July	0	1	"	"	"
19th August	0	1	"	"	"
20th September	0	18	"	"	"
18th October	0	0	"	"	"
20th November	0	0	"	"	"
16th December	0	0	"	"	"

# Mid-Kent Water Company.

	54	54	Present in 100 ccs.	Absent in 90 ccs. Further tests shewed that these were not typical B. coli. The counts are also considerably higher than usual.	Good Water.
17th January					
18th February	0	0			
21st March	2	204	"	"	"
15th April	0	15	"	"	"
13th May	0	1	"	"	"
17th June	0	1	"	"	"
17th July	0	0	"	"	"
19th August	0	3	"	"	"
20th September	0	0	"	"	"
18th October	0	25	"	"	"
20th November	0	0	"	"	"
16th December	0	0	"	"	"



# K.C.C. Private Supply, Shorne Ifield.

Date.	No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on Agar at		B. coli (presumptive).		Remarks.
	37° C.	22° C.			
17th January	2	54	Present in 100 ccs.	Absent in 90 ccs. Further tests shewed that these were not typical B. coli. Satisfactory.	
18th February	6	168	Absent in 100 ccs.	Good Water.	
21st March	0	6	"	"	"
15th April	0	4	"	"	"
13th May	0	250	"	No evidence of faecal, but a very high count at 22°C.	
17th June	0	1	"	Good Water.	
17th July	15	12	"	Satisfactory.	
19th August	1	2	"	Good Water.	
20th September	40	125	Present in 90 ccs.	Absent in 80 ccs. Further tests shewed that these were not typical B. coli. No evidence of faecal contamination.	
18th October	0	15	Absent in 100 ccs.	Good Water.	
20th November	0	15	"	"	"
16th December	0	34	Present in 100 ccs.	Absent in 90 ccs. Further tests shewed that these were not typical B. coli. Satisfactory.	

## War Department, Grain.

17th January	0	0	Absent in 100 ccs.	Good Water.
18th February	0	0	"	"
21st March	4	0	"	"
15th April	0	9	"	"
13th May	0	3	"	"
17th June	0	80	"	"
17th July	0	3	"	Satisfactory.
19th August	0	0	"	Good Water.
20th September	0	0	"	"

# War Department, Grain.—Continued.

Date.	No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on Agar at 37° C.	450	Present in 10 ccs.	B. coli (presumptive).	Remarks.
18th October	30	450	Present in 10 ccs.		Absent in 1 cc. Further tests shewed the presence of a typical B. coli. in 10 ccs. A contaminated water. It would appear that the treatment is not efficient.
30th October	1	0	Absent in 100 ccs.		Good Water.
20th November	0	0	"	"	"
16th December	0	0	"	"	"

## Samples obtained from Wells or as the Result of Complaints in Various Parishes.

Date.	Parish.	No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on Agar at 37° C.	22° C.	B. coli (presumptive).	Remarks.
18th February	Hoo	0	0	Absent in 100 ccs.	Good Water.
21st March	Cooling	4	284	Present in 50 ccs.	Absent in 40 ccs. Further tests shewed the presence of a typical B. coli. in 50 ccs. A contaminated water.
15th April	Shorne	0	40	Absent in 100 ccs.	Good Water.
17th June	Cuxton	1	35	Absent in 100 ccs.	Good Water.
17th July	Luddesdown	0	140	Present in 90 ccs.	Absent in 80 ccs. Further tests shewed that these were not typical B. coli. No evidence of recent faecal contamination. Probably soil organisms.
19th August	Cliffe	15420	24574	Present in 10 ccs.	Absent in 1 cc. Further tests shewed that these were not typical B. coli. Not satisfactory.
20th September	Cuxton	4	26	Present in 80 ccs.	Absent in 70 ccs. Further tests shewed the presence of a typical B. coli. in 90 ccs. This water shews some evidence of faecal contamination.
16th December	Cliffe	26	3000	Present in 50 ccs.	Absent in 40 ccs. Further tests shewed that these were not typical B. coli. This is not a satisfactory sample, although there is no evidence of faecal contamination.

# Gravesend and Milton Water Works Co., Ltd.

COPY—OCTOBER 21st, 1939.

Report on two samples of water received from Gravesend, October 21st, 1939.

Samples contained in bottles supplied from here, unlabelled. Both waters are of the highest possible quality both chemically and bacteriologically.

## ANALYTICAL DETAILS.

	<i>Meopham</i>	<i>Gravesend</i>
Appearance	Clear	Clear
Colour	Blue	Pale blue
Smell	None	None
Deposit	None	None
Hardness before boiling	18½ degrees Clark	21 degrees Clark
Hardness after boiling	3 degrees Clark	4 degrees Clark
Colour of residue	White	White
Behaviour on ignition	No significant darkening	No significant darkening
<i>Grains per gallon.</i>		
Total dry residue	... 23.9	30.1
Oxygen absorbed	... 0.002	0.004
Chlorine	... 1.02	1.74
Nitric acid	... 1.33	3.19
Ammonia	... 0.0000	0.0000
Albuminoid ammonia...	0.0000	0.0000

## Bacteriological examination:—

	<i>Gravesend.</i>	<i>Meopham.</i>
Number of colonies per ml. developing upon agar in 2 days at 37° C.	3	1
Number of colonies per ml. developing upon agar in 3 days at 22° C.	7	2
Coli aerogenes organisms...	Absent in 100 ml.	absent in 100 ml.
Streptococci ...	do.	do.
B. welchii ...	do.	do.

These waters show no material alteration in chemical composition as compared respectively with previous samples from these sources. They are both waters of a high degree of organic purity and their bacteriological condition is satisfactory.

As judged by these samples the waters are both suitable for the public supply.

(Signed) ED. HINKS.



## Grain.

The results obtained in the analysis of this water have been, on the whole, very unsatisfactory.  
The following are details:—

Date. 1938.	No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on Agar at 37° C.	Bi coli (presumptive).	Remarks.
16th February	186	Absent in 100 ccs.	No evidence of faecal contamination, but counts too high. Unsatisfactory.
16th March	1100	"	Counts far too high. Not satisfactory.
13th April	21	"	37° C. count rather high. 22° C. count too high.
11th May	2	"	Good water.
15th June	146	"	No evidence of faecal contamination.
13th July	326	Present in 1 cc.	Absent in 1/10 cc. Further tests showed the presence of a typical B. coli in 20 ccs. <i>Very unsatisfactory. Unfit for human consumption unless boiled.</i>

In July, 1938, a number of improvements were carried out, including:—

- (1) All tanks were thoroughly cleansed and cement washed.
- (2) The water in the storage tank was chlorinated by hand.
- (3) Sample lengths of pipes at various points in the system were exposed and examined to ascertain their condition; defective or corroded pipes were replaced.
- (4) Personnel employed at the pumping station were examined to ensure that no "carriers" were employed.
- (5) It was suggested that the provision of an automatic chlorinator is essential.

Rapid improvement of the water followed.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
17th August ...	0	0	Absent in 100 ccs.	Good water.	
14th September	0	0	„	„	
12th October ...	0	4	„	„	
15th November	0	0	„	„	
14th December	0	4	„	„	

This improvement was maintained until the outbreak of war, when a sudden and dangerous relapse set in. Inquiries showed that owing to a shortage of Bleach, the water was not chlorinated for a period of at least two weeks. However, this omission has been attended to, and I have been informed that the water is now reasonably safe.

Remarks:—

I am not happy that chlorination by hand is a satisfactory method, and, in my opinion, it is essential that a piped supply from the main of the Higham and Hundred of Hoo Water Co. should be laid on immediately.

The Local Authority is awaiting sanction from the Minister of Health before proceeding with the work.

Description of Sample.	No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on Agar at:		B. coli (presumptive)	Other Tests
	37° C.	22° C.		
B.22948 "Laughing Water," Cobham (Deep end) ... ..	228	432	Present in 1 c.c.	
B.22949 "Laughing Water," Cobham (Shallow end) ... ..	5020	5050	Present in 10 c.cs.	

## SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

During the year, our efforts were directed towards the improvement of the existing drains, viz.:—Relaying and ventilating drains and paving yards. In this connection many permanent improvements were carried out.

## **Refuse, Disposing, Scavenging.**

Owing to the increase in the number of houses the Council have introduced a scheme of refuse collection into 11 Parishes (by Contract), and it is proving satisfactory.

## **Halling Drainage.**

Halling is mainly a water closet town, and excrement disposal is by water carriage in closed sewers to a sewage disposal works, where the purification works consists of two grit chambers, three septic tanks, three upward-flow cellular tanks and three bacterial tanks, with cleaning chambers, valve chambers, &c.

House refuse is deposited in portable receptacles with covers.

## **Rivers and Streams.**

Samples of the effluent of Halling Sewage Works were not favourably reported on by the Analyst.

## **Hoo Main Drainage.**

In June, 1935, the Council decided to employ Mr. Martin, M.I.C.E., F.G.S., in the capacity of Consulting Engineer, to prepare a scheme for the Parish of Hoo. The present population is approximately 2,500, and the number of inhabited houses about 590. The Parish is an extensive one, and the levels are such that the whole of the inhabited area can be drained by gravitation. The estimated cost of the scheme is £16,000.

The scheme is now in progress.

## **Dumping of House Refuse from Outside Districts in the Strood Area.**

I received complaints, chiefly from the Parishes of Meopham, Grain and Halstow respecting Nuisance caused by the dumping of House Refuse in these districts by outside Authorities.

## **Bye-Laws Adopted.**

The Common Seal of the District Council for the Rural District of Strood, was hereto affixed at a Meeting of the Council held on the twelfth day of April, 1929, and allowed by the Minister of Health on the tenth day of June, 1929, concerning the Bye-Laws of the Council for the Prevention of Nuisances arising from filth, dust, ashes and rubbish in that portion of the Rural District of Strood, which comprises the contributory places of Cliffe, Cuxton, Denton, Frindsbury Extra, Halling and Strood Extra.

These Bye-Laws have been of considerable assistance to us in the prevention of nuisances.

*Strood Extra is now under the jurisdiction of the City of Rochester and  
Denton is under the jurisdiction of the Borough of Gravesend.*



### Bye-Laws in Force.

<i>With respect to New Buildings...</i>	Adopted 31st January, 1936, allowed by M. of H. 26th March, 1936.
<i>Prevention of Nuisances arising from Deposits of Filth, Dust, Ashes and Rubbish ... ..</i>	Adopted 12th April, 1929, allowed by M. of H. 10th June, 1929.
<i>Regulations, Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops ... ..</i>	Adopted 8th December, 1910.
<i>Byelaws with respect to Licensing Registering and Inspection of Slaughterhouses ... ..</i>	Adopted 20th August, 1908, allowed 13th October, 1908.
<i>Byelaws requiring Animals to be stunned before slaughter ... ..</i>	Adopted 12th June, 1925, allowed 5th August, 1925.
<i>Byelaws with respect to offensive trades Denton, Frindsbury Extra and Strood Extra ... ..</i>	Adopted 12th September, 1912, allowed 12th November, 1912.

*Strood Extra is now under the jurisdiction of the City of Rochester.*

*Denton is now under the jurisdiction of the Borough of Gravesend.*

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### Milk Supply.

For the most part the milk consumed is produced in the District, and there is no reason to doubt its purity and wholesomeness. There are 53 Cowsheds and Dairies in the District, all of which have been regularly inspected, and where necessary, instructions given as to the necessity of cleanliness, personal and otherwise, and also as to cleansing of utensils, cattle sheds, &c.

### Grade "A" (Accredited) Milk Scheme.

Notification has been received from the Kent County Council, that the following had been licensed for the production of Grade "A" (Accredited) Milk, within this Council's area.

Mr. F. Talbot, Manor Farm, Frindsbury Extra.  
Mr. C. Batchelor, Rye Street Farm, Cliffe.  
Mr. B. Osenton, Solomon's Farm, High Halstow  
(Tuberculin Tested).  
Messrs. J. Tickell, Lomer Farm, Meopham.  
Mr. S. Osenton, Formby Farm, Halling.  
Mr. G. Osenton, Mill Farm, Hoo.  
Mrs. W. Baker, Thong House Farm, Shorne.  
Messrs. W. Filmer & Son, Courtsole Farm, Cliffe.  
Mr. S. Osenton, Dalham Farm, High Halstow.  
Mr. T. Eddleston, Woodhill Farm, Meopham.  
Mr. C. Barton, Ashmere Farm, Meopham.

Grade "A" milk is required to contain not more than 200,000 organisms per cubic centimetre and B. Coli should be absent from  $\frac{1}{100}$  of a cubic centimeter. All samples, with the exception of 8, conformed with the Order.

### Pasteurised Milk.

This is milk retained at a temperature of not less than 145° and not more than 150°F. for at least half-an-hour and cooled immediately to a temperature of not more than 55°F. It must not contain more than 100,000 bacteria per cubic centimetre.

Of three samples taken during the year, one reached the required standard of cleanliness, one just failed whilst the third was a very poor sample.

### Inspection of Cows.

The number in milk at the end of the year was approximately 922. They were examined at frequent intervals by the veterinary inspector, the sanitary inspector and myself.

### Provision of Milk for School Children.

Under this Scheme the price of milk consumed in schools by young children, is reduced to one shilling per gallon; thus enabling it to be supplied to children at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for one-third of a pint, instead of 1d. as hitherto. The milk will, wherever possible, be supplied in bottles containing one-third of a pint.

The Board urge that any areas where a supply of efficiently pasteurised milk is available, such milk should in all cases be provided. In other areas, all possible precautions should be taken to ensure, as far as possible, the safety of the supply.

The Scheme came into operation on 1st October, 1934.

### Slaughter Houses.

There are 10 Slaughter Houses in the District, which have been regularly inspected. Your Sanitary Officer visits them as much as possible at times of killing. The condition of these places is, on the whole, satisfactory.

### Private Slaughter Houses in use in the District.

		In 1920.	In January, 1926.	In December, 1939.
Registered	...	2	2	3
Licensed	...	6	6	7
Total	...	8	8	10

### Slaughter House Licences.

Formal applications having been made in that behalf for the renewal of Licences for the use and occupation of Slaughter Houses in the District, a renewal of the Licences was granted in the following instances, for a further period of 12 months from the date of this meeting, the Inspector having reported that all the premises in question were in a satisfactory condition.



Name of Occupier of Slaughter House.	Situation of Slaughter House.
Oliver Smith Russell ... ..	The Green, Meopham.
William Ashby ... ..	Cemetery Road, Halling.
Albert Edward Whyman ... ..	Hermitage Road, Higham.
Walter Sturt ... ..	Reed Street, Cliffe.
S. H. Weekes ... ..	Turner's Road, Cliffe.
W. A. Oakes ... ..	"Dean Mead," Harvel, Meopham.
Frank Gore ... ..	Station Road, Halling.

### Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933—Licences.

Formal application having been made in that behalf, for *renewal* of Licences to slaughter or stun animals in a Slaughter House or Knackers' Yard, it was resolved, upon the recommendation of the Inspector, that the Council, in pursuance of the powers given to them, under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, do hereby grant renewal of Licences under the Act for a period of one year, to the undermentioned persons:—

Ernest Larkin, 5, May Cottage, Cliffe.  
Ernest Walter Sturt, Osborne House, Reed Street, Cliffe.  
William Elford, High Street, Cliffe.  
Edward George Dowsett, 1, Industry Cottages, Cliffe.  
Sydney Herbert Weekes, 1, St. George's Terrace, Cliffe.  
William John Broad, The Street, Cobham.  
Thomas George Cook, Kent Road, Halling.  
Cyril Perm King, 7, Kent Terrace, Meopham.  
Ronald Frank King, "Monkreed," Longfield Hill, Meopham.  
Oliver Smith Russell, "Barnside," Meopham Green, Meopham.  
Bertram Broad, High Street, Hoo.  
George J. Stopps, High Street, Hoo.  
Dennis Harry Stopps, High Street, Stoke.  
Benjamin Cooper, 3, Friary Place, Station Road, Rochester.  
Herbert Velpuna, 125, Kent Road, Halling.  
Reginald Jack Lord, Norway House, Meopham.  
George Edward Bevan, High Street, Hoo.

### Bakehouses.

There are 11 in the District. They have all been systematically inspected and usually found fairly well kept.

### Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

Particulars of Samples taken by me during the year ended 31st December, 1939, in the Parishes of:—

All Hallows, Cliffe, Cooling, Frindsbury Extra, Higham, High Halstow, Hoo, St. James Grain, St. Mary, Shorne and Stoke.

New Milk .....	71
Butter .....	13
Margarine .....	6
Lard .....	1



Sugar .....	2
Flour .....	1
Mustard Compound ...	1
Whisky .....	6
Sausage .....	2
Cream .....	1
Tapioca .....	1
Jam .....	6
Condensed Milk .....	3
Preserved Peas .....	1
Cordials .....	2
Pepper .....	1
Fish Paste .....	2
<hr/>	
Total ...	120
<hr/>	

Prosecutions :—One milk retailer was prosecuted in respect of milk which proved on analysis to be 26.6% deficient in fat. The case was dismissed on the payment of costs amounting to £2 10s.

Cautions :—One milk retailer was officially cautioned in respect of retail milk which proved on analysis to be deficient in fat.

W. R. BREED, Inspector.

Particulars of samples taken in the Parishes of Cobham, Meopham and Luddesdown for the year ended 31st December, 1939 :—

No. of samples taken... 37

#### DETAILS.

Milk .....	10
Butter .....	3
Margarine .....	3
Ground Rice .....	1
Oatmeal .....	1
Cocoa .....	1
Coffee .....	3
Castor Oil .....	1
Gin .....	1
Cream .....	3
Lard .....	1
Rice .....	1
Honey .....	1
Rum .....	2
Baking Powder .....	1
Arrowroot .....	1
Whisky .....	1
Lard Compound .....	2

One trader at Meopham was prosecuted for selling a lard compound as pure lard, a conviction was recorded and a fine of twenty shillings imposed.

W. A. ELKINGTON, County Inspector.

No samples have been taken by the County Sampling Officers in the Parishes of Cuxton and Halling during the year ended 31st December, 1939, but two samples of new milk were procured from a Cuxton Milk retailer who was intercepted in Snodland. These samples were taken on different occasions and both proved to be genuine.

W. E. ALLEN,

Deputy Chief Inspector of Weights  
and Measures.

### **Offensive Trades.**

None in Area.

### **Common Lodging Houses.**

There are none in the District.

## **HOUSING.**

### **(1) General housing conditions in the area.**

Many cases of overcrowding exist in the District, and the Council are gradually relieving the inevitable distress by building houses to be let at an economic rent. See detailed report.

The majority of the houses are on a main water supply, and where the Companies' water is not available an adequate rain-water system is in vogue.

In the semi-urban parts of the District, water closets are almost universally provided, but in the outlying rural Parishes, pail closets are more the rule than the exception. Only in one or two cases is common accommodation the practice.

Bye-laws in respect of New Buildings have been in force in the District since 1897 and revised in 1936.

Owing to the general character of Housing conditions in the District (mostly rural), no part of the District can be described as an "unhealthy area."

### **Housing. Council's Property.**

- (a) 50 houses were built in 1916 in the Parish of Hoo by the former Hoo Rural District Council.

50 houses were built in 1916 in the Parish of Wainscott by the former Strood Rural District Council.

- (b) 96 houses were built under the Housing Act of 1919 between 1919 and 1921 by the former Hoo Rural District Council in the following Parishes:—

All Hallows .....	12
Grain .....	12
High Halstow .....	8
Hoo .....	40
Stoke .....	12
St. Mary .....	12

- (c) 58 houses were built in 1931 in the Parish of Hoo by the former Hoo R.D.C. under the Housing Act, 1925.

- (d) 12 houses were built in 1935 at Stoke for displaced persons under the Housing Act of 1930 by the former Hoo R.D.C.  
8 houses were built in 1935 in the Parish of High Halstow for displaced persons under the Housing Act of 1930 by the former Hoo R.D.C.
- (e) 8 houses were built in 1927 in the Parish of Shorne under Housing Act, 1923, by the former Strood R.D.C.
- (f) 4 houses were built in 1929 in the Parish of Meopham under the Housing Act of 1923 by the former Strood R.D.C.
- (g) 4 houses were built in 1929 in the Parish of Chalk under the Housing Act, 1923, by the former Strood R.D.C.
- (h) 8 houses were built in 1931 in the Parish of Higham under the Housing Act, 1890, by the former Strood R.D.C.
- (j) (i) Four houses were built in 1932, Shorne.  
(ii) Two houses were built in 1932, Higham.  
(iii) Two houses were built in 1932, Luddesdown.  
Housing Act, 1890, by the former Strood R.D.C.
- (k) 4 houses were built in 1934 in the Parish of Meopham under the Housing Act, 1890, by the former Strood R.D.C.
- (l) (i) Six houses were built in 1935, Wainscott.  
(ii) Six houses were built in 1935, Higham.  
(iii) Four houses were built in 1935, Shorne.  
(iv) Two houses were built in 1935, Cobham.  
(v) Four houses were built in 1935, Cliffe.  
under the Housing Act, 1930.
- (m) Fourteen houses were built in 1937-38 at Halling (6 A3, 6 A4, 2 B5).  
Ten houses were built in 1937-38 at Stoke (4 A3, 4 A4, 2 B5).  
Two houses were built in 1937-38 at Cobham (2 A3).  
Two houses were built in 1937-38 at Wainscott (2 A3).

In addition the Council own 4 houses at Cobham, purchased and reconditioned in 1925.

The Council own 368 houses, these are let at an average weekly rental of 7s. 9d.

### **Houses Built by Private Enterprise and Other Bodies.**

- (a) 68 houses were built during 1927 under the Housing Acts, 1923-24, and by private enterprise.
- (b) 52 houses were built during 1928 under the Housing Acts, 1923-24, and by private enterprise.
- (c) 58 houses were built during 1929 under the Housing Acts, 1923-24, and by private enterprise.
- (d) 66 houses were built during 1930 by private enterprise.
- (e) 117 houses were built during 1931 by private enterprise and by Gravesend Corporation.
- (f) i 182 houses were built during 1932 by private enterprise.  
ii 168 houses were built during 1932 by the Corporation of Gravesend.



- iii 92 houses were built during 1932 by the City Corporation of Rochester.
- (g) i 542 houses were built during 1933 by private enterprise.
- ii 176 houses and 12 flats were built during 1933 by the Corporation of Gravesend.
- iii 82 houses were built during 1933 by the City Corporation of Rochester.
- (h) i Central Offices for all departments embodying Council Chamber, etc., were erected by the Council during 1934.
- ii 355 houses were built during 1934 by private enterprise, and of this number 136 were transferred to the City of Rochester upon April 1st, 1934.
- (i) 149 houses were built during 1935 by private enterprise, and of this number 48 were transferred to the Corporation of Gravesend under the County of Kent Review Order, 1935.
- (j) 118 houses were built during 1936 by private enterprise, also a convalescent home for the Shaftesbury Homes and Arethusa Training Ship Authorities.
- (k) 94 houses were built during 1937 by private enterprise.
- (l) 87 houses were built during 1938 by private enterprise.
- (m) 50 houses were built during 1939 by private enterprise.

2,468 new houses were erected in 39 areas during the past fourteen years by private enterprise and other Local Authorities, but of this number 853 were erected during the past six years.

## 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Acts or Housing Acts) ... ..	203
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	378
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	38
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	113
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation... ..	26
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	12

## 2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers... ..	161
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### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	12
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners ... ..	Nil.
(Work in hand completed 1940)	
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil.
b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners ... ..	Nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil.
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	19
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	2
(d) Proceedings under Sec. 12, Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ..	Nil

### 4. Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	43
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	43
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	276½
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	Nil.
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	Nil.
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	Nil.
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ..	Nil.
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ...	Nil.

# THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901, AND THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

## 1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspect- ions. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
FACTORIES with mechanical power ... ..	217	...	...
FACTORIES without mechanical power ... ..	...	...	...
OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and engineering con- struction but not including outworkers' Premises). ... ..	...	...	...
Total ... ..	217	Nil	Nil

## 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	No. of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Pro- secutions were inst'd (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding (S. 2) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable Temperature (S. 3) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Conveniences { insufficient ... .. { unsuitable or defective ... .. { not separate for sexes ... .. (S. 7)	...	...	...	...
Other Offences ... .. (Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937).	...	...	...	...
Total ... ..	...	...	...	...

I would like to put on record my appreciation of the able assistance I have received from the Sanitary Inspector and Public Health Surveyor and other members of the Public Health Staff.

M. F. McDONNELL,

*Medical Officer of Health*



HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
COUNCIL OFFICES,  
STROOD.

*July, 1940.*

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1939.

To the Chairman and Members of the Strood Rural District Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1939, in respect of my duties as Sanitary Inspector, Inspection Officer under the Housing Acts, Inspector of Cowsheds, Dairies, Factories and Workshops, Meat and Food Inspector and Petroleum Inspector.

### Housing Act, 1936. Inspections.

During the past year 38 houses were inspected and recorded under the provisions of the Housing Acts, and the following table shows what action was taken in the several Parishes:—

Name of Parish.	No. inspected under Sec. 9.	No. inspected under Sec. 11.
Cliffe .....	—	6
Frindsbury .....	12	14
Higham .....	—	5
High Halstow .....	—	1
	—	—
	12	26
	—	—

Notices for repairs were served in respect of the 12 houses under Section 9.

Under Section 11, Demolition Orders were made respecting 19 houses but, owing to the present situation, no further action was taken respecting the remaining 7 houses.

### Nuisance Inspections.

165 premises were inspected under the P.H. Acts. Where nuisances or defects were found to exist, notices were served to remedy such defects. It was not found necessary to issue during the year Statutory Notices in respect of premises. Reinspections followed and frequent visits made whilst the work was in progress.

As the result of such inspections improvements of various kinds were effected on premises in the District during the year.

## Nuisances Abated.

### WATER CLOSETS :

New L.C.C. pans and traps fitted ... ..	9
Water closets re-built or new ... ..	16
Water fittings (cisterns, etc.) repaired or provided	10
Seats, doors, floors, brickwork repaired ... ..	3

### PAIL CLOSETS :

New provided ... ..	4
Walls, floors, roofs repaired... ..	1

### CESSPOOLS OR SEPTIC TANKS :

New provided ... ..	4
Emptied (not by local authority) ... ..	21

### YARDS :

Drained and paved with cement concrete ... ..	5
---	---

### SINKS AND BATHS :

Sinks fixed ... ..	9
Waste pipes provided and fixed ... ..	7

### DRAINAGE :

Repaired ... ..	3
Cleared by owners ... ..	5
Inspection chambers provided or repaired ... ..	15
Inspection chamber covers and frames provided ... ..	4
Vent shafts repaired ... ..	5
New drains provided ... ..	24

### DAMPNESS :

Roofs repaired and made watertight ... ..	24
Eaves, guttering and down pipes provided or repaired ... ..	7
External walls protected from dampness ... ..	45
Ventilation provided under floors ... ..	2

### GENERAL :

Chimneys and chimney stacks rebuilt or repaired...	6
Cooking ranges and coppers provided or repaired	16
Floors, new or repaired ... ..	12
Sashes, doors, frames and stairs repaired ... ..	19
Filthy houses cleansed by tenants ... ..	2
Rooms, walls and ceilings repaired and cleansed...	57
Dustbins provided ... ..	12

## Infectious Diseases.

104 cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year ending 31st December, 1939, 58 of which were removed to and treated at the Council's Isolation Hospital.

The whole of the cases were immediately visited and a general inspection made of the premises. Steps were taken to remedy any insanitary defects, which were found to exist, the premises disinfected and instructions given for a thorough cleansing of the

premises. The following table shows the nature of each notification and the Parishes in which they occurred:—

Parish.	Total cases notified.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.	Pneumonia.	Tuberculosis		Puerperal Pyrexia	Measles.	Whooping Cough	Cases removed to Hospital.
								Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.				
All Hallows ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cliffe ... ..	16	10	4	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	13
Cobham ... ..	5	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	3
Cooling ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Cuxton ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Frindsbury Ex...	16	8	1	1	...	1	...	5	...	...	...	...	8
Grain ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Halling ... ..	13	3	9	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	12
Higham ... ..	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	2
High Halstow ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hoo ... ..	17	13	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	14
Luddesdown ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meopham ... ..	30	6	...	1	...	...	3	3	1	...	...	16	6
St. Mary ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shorne ... ..	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Stoke ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ... ..	104	46	15	3	1	1	4	11	5	1	1	16	58
Total cases removed to Hospital	...	43	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58

### Cowsheds and Dairies.

95 visits were made during the year to Cowsheds and Dairies and Milkshops in the District, and with few exceptions, the premises were found to be in a clean condition.

The following gives the number of Cowkeepers, Dairymen, etc., on the Registers:—

Number of Cowkeepers in the District ...	47
Number of Dairymen and Retailers (not Cowkeepers ... ..	11
Number of Retailers of Bottled Sterilized Milk ... ..	1

45 samples of mixed milk were submitted to the Bacteriological Department, Maidstone, under the Grade "A" (Accredited) Milk Scheme, and with the exception of 8 samples all samples complied with the prescribed conditions.

A sample of ordinary milk was submitted from a farm in the District and the result was unsatisfactory. A further sample proved satisfactory.

Two samples were also submitted for Tuberculosis. One sample proved to be free from tubercle bacilli, but the other was



positive. As a result the County Veterinary Inspector examined 16 cows at the farm, one was found to be affected with Tuberculosis and was slaughtered.

### Petroleum Acts.

In 1939 68 licences were issued for the storage of Petroleum and Carbide of Calcium. All licences are renewed annually.

Petroleum Licences	...	...	64
Carbide of Calcium Licences	...	...	4

81 inspections were made to licensed premises during the year, with regard to the installation of new storage tanks and pumps, and to see that the requirements of the Act were being carried out.

### Factories and Workshops.

I have inspected from time to time the Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses in the District.

There are 46 Factories and 22 Workshops, and 11 Bakehouses situate in the District.

### Water Supply.

The District is supplied with water by the following Water Companies. There are still a number of houses where main water is not available and well and rainwater is being used as a substitute.

The following Companies mains are in use:—

The Higham and Hundred of Hoo Water Co.  
The Mid-Kent Water Co.  
War Department, Grain.

Samples are submitted monthly to the County Laboratory, Maidstone, and for particulars see Medical Officer's Report.

Further particulars respecting the water shortage will be found in the Medical Officer's Report.

### Slaughter-houses.

There are 7 Licensed and 3 Registered Slaughter-houses in the District, the former being licensed annually.

Cliffe	...	1 Registered	2 Licensed.
Halling	...	—	2 Licensed.
Higham	...	—	1 Licensed.
Hoo	...	1 Registered	—
Meopham...	...	—	2 Licensed.
Stoke	...	1 Registered	—

252 visits were made to these premises, and only 2 were found to require limewashing. This work was carried out.

Your Inspector visits slaughter-houses as often as possible at times of killing, but more frequent inspection is impossible as premises are scattered over the 16 Parishes of the District, and slaughtering sometimes takes place on the same day and hour, at different premises.

## Carcases Inspected and Condemned :—

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number inspected .....	101	—	2	127	259

## ALL DISEASES EXCEPT

## TUBERCULOSIS :

Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	1	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	1	1
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis	2.9	—	—	1.5	.77

## TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :

Whole carcases condemned	1	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuberculosis	2.9	—	—	—	.38

The Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, came into force on the 1st January, 1934. Under this Act it is necessary for all persons engaged in slaughtering or stunning animals to apply to the local authority for a licence to slaughter or stun animals in slaughter-houses or knacker's yards.

17 applications were received during the year and the necessary licences granted under this Act.

**Offensive Trades.**

Bye-laws are in force for the regulation of Offensive Trades in the Parish of Frindsbury Extra.

No Offensive Trades are carried on in the District.

**Disinfection of Premises.**

75 premises were disinfected after the occurrence of Infectious Disease, Deaths, and removals from Cancer and Tuberculosis.

**Rats and Mice Destruction Act.**

20 inspections were made under the above Act, and after distribution of poison baits, re-inspections were made.

During Rat Week a special effort was made throughout the District.

Poison was distributed to slaughter-houses, farms, shops and dwellings, which were stated to be rat infested, and advice given by your Inspector, in the method of laying poison baits, and as to removal of likely breeding places.

### Summary of Inspections and Visits.

General Housing Inspections and re-Inspections (Housing Acts) ... ..	113
Primary Inspection of Dwellings (P.H.A.) ...	165
Re-inspections after service of notices and visits during progress of work ... ..	100
Inspections under Petroleum Acts ... ..	81
Inspection of Rubbish Dumps ... ..	4
Inspection of Tents, Vans and Sheds ... ..	159
Inspection of Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops ...	95
Visits to Factories, etc. ... ..	217
Visits re Rats and Mice Destruction ... ..	20
Visits to Slaughter-houses and Butcher Shops ...	252
Visits to Schools ... ..	7
Visits re Stage Plays and Cinema Licences ...	6
Visits re Water Supplies ... ..	123
Infectious Disease Enquiries ... ..	104
Miscellaneous Visits (Interviewing Builders, Owners, etc.) ... ..	291
	<hr/>
	1,737
	<hr/>

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Dr. M. F. McDonnell, and other Officers of the Council for their kind assistance to me, and also the Chairman and Members of the Strood Rural District Council for the kind consideration they have shown me.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR E. R. SOUTH,  
Sanitary Inspector







